

Incident Name: Pump Station 1 Booster Pump Piping Incident

Source: Joint Information Center

Contact: 907-450-5857

Web site: www.dec.alaska.gov/spar/ps1

FACT SHEET NUMBER: 10

Jan. 17, 2011, 10:57 a.m.

- The Trans Alaska Pipeline System restarted at 10:18 a.m.
- The Unified Command's primary goal leading up to restart was to safely return the pipeline to full service while protecting people and the environment. The Unified Command is comprised of federal, state and Alyeska representatives.
- There is no known harm to the environment or wildlife due to this incident.

Current status:

- Work continued through the night to install the bypass pipeline necessary to restore the Trans Alaska Pipeline System to full operation.
- Repairs were completed at 3:40 a.m.
- Crews began introducing crude to the Pump Station 1 piping system and started refill operations just before 5 a.m.
- The North Slope oil fields operated between 12 to 24 percent of normal production levels during the shutdown.
- Startup is a complicated process and it is expected to take several days for throughput to return to normal.

Background

- This shutdown of TAPS began shortly after 12:00 a.m. on Jan. 15 for the installing of the bypass pipeline at Pump Station 1.
- The bypass design, fabrication and installation was a complex project that normally would have involved months of planning and preparation. Crews were able to safely complete the work in a short tight frame, under challenging and harsh winter weather conditions.
- Since the main pipeline shut down for installation of the bypass, the original leak in the pump station basement stopped.
- The total recovery estimate from Pump Station 1 from when the leak was detected on Jan. 8 is about 317 barrels of oil, or 13,326 gallons.
- Oil tanks at Prudhoe Bay held incoming oil during the shutdown.
- To date, no oil has been discovered outside the building.
- At the present time, there are more than 600 people responding to the incident, including 375 people at Pump Station 1.

For current weather conditions at Pump Station 1:

<http://pafg.arh.noaa.gov/wmofcst.php?wmo=FPAK51PAFG&type=public#AKZ203>.

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Note: All times are Alaska Standard Time.

The Unified Command consists of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.